

Superintendent Losquadro and Council Woman Bonner Provide Superstorm Sandy Relief to Sound Beach Residents

posted on 4/1/2015 1:16:04 PM

April 1, 2015



Farmingville, NY - - In October of 2012, Superstorm Sandy caused severe damage to the outfall site located at the northern end of Riverhead Drive in Sound Beach. Damage sustained led to a significant loss of soil and vegetation that was required to stabilize the slope, protect the bluff from erosion, provide stability to the surrounding area and protect adjacent properties from damage. Working together, Brookhaven Highway Superintendent Daniel P. Losquadro and Councilwoman Jane Bonner took decisive action to properly assess the damage and put a plan in place to mitigate against potential future storm events.

"With the surrounding area already compromised, it was imperative that we moved quickly," said Superintendent Losquadro. "The bluff is very susceptible to erosion due to its steep slope and its vulnerability to high storm surge from the Long Island Sound. The erosion control improvements we made to the site will protect the bluff from further damage, ensuring that the Long Island Sound Estuary is protected from potential harm while also providing adjacent property owners with peace of mind."

"This is the first of many projects planned for communities along the North Shore," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner. "It was very gratifying to sponsor the resolution that helped move the Riverhead Drive Erosion Control Improvement Project forward for the residents of Sound Beach."

The project involved extending the gabion walls in order to protect the areas of bluff which experienced significant erosion and thereby stabilizing the bulkhead. The existing bluff was reestablished and fortified with jute mesh and beach grass. Additional fill was also brought in to stabilize areas behind the existing bulkhead. The project also included repairs to the cap of the existing bulkhead in order to eliminate openings/gaps in the cap and missing wood planks were also installed. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding is expected to offset the cost of these improvements.

"We took proactive action to strengthen and fortify the bluff before the next natural disaster strikes to ensure the safety of the road and its residents," said Steve Tricarico, Deputy Superintendent of Highways. "By acting now, we provided the most cost effective solution for risk reduction while making an excellent investment in the long-term protection of Riverhead Drive."

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